

# Identifying, Arresting and Prosecuting Substance Impaired Driving



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The best tool law enforcement has for  
identifying impaired drivers  
is the  
Standardized Field Sobriety Tests  
(SFSTs)

The overall process of identifying  
and arresting impaired drivers  
includes three phases

Vehicle in Motion

Personal Contact

Pre-Arrest Screening

# Detecting Impaired Drivers

## Vehicle in Motion

What attracted my attention to the vehicle

Driving behavior

Vehicle equipment

## Personal Contact

What did I see

What did I hear

What did I smell

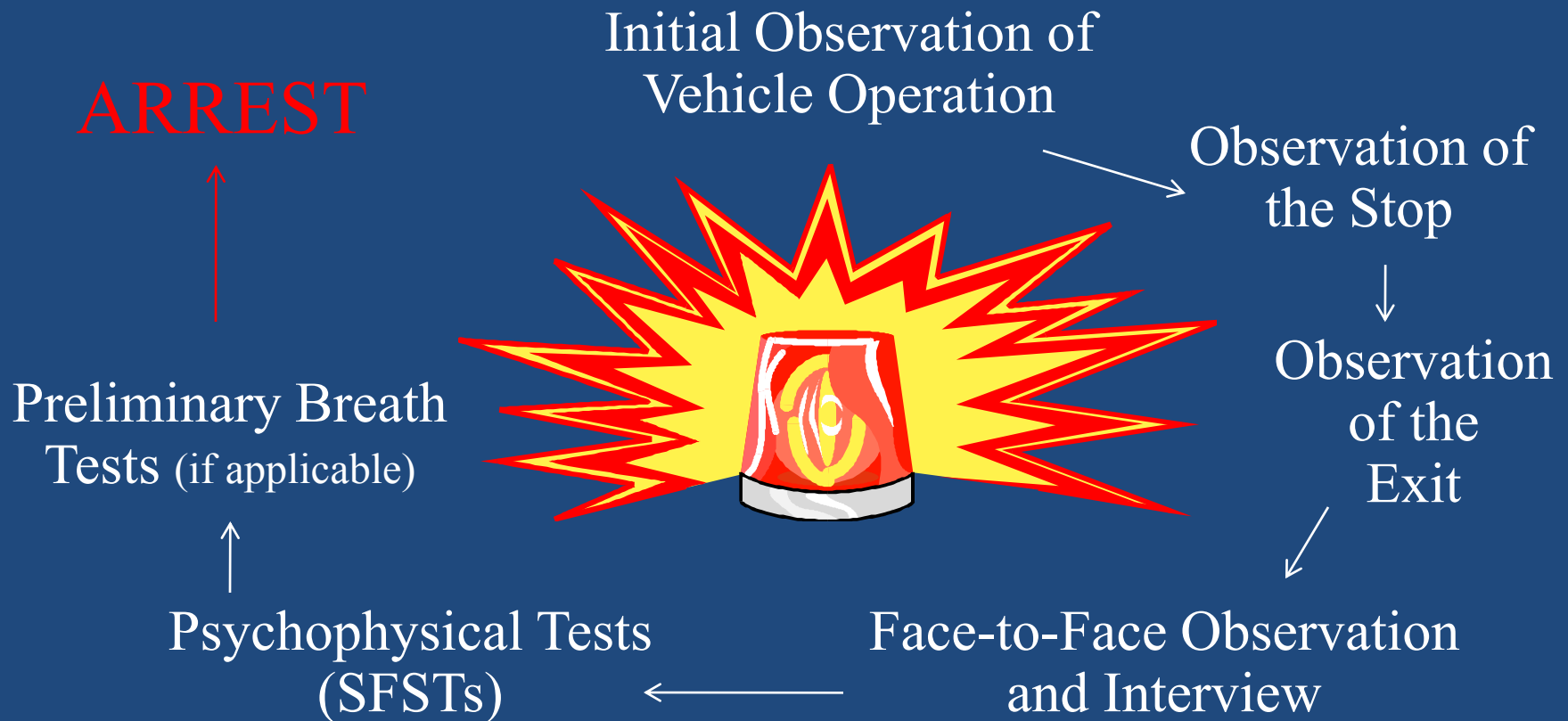
## Pre-Arrest Screening

Administration of the SFST's

# Pre-Arrest Screening

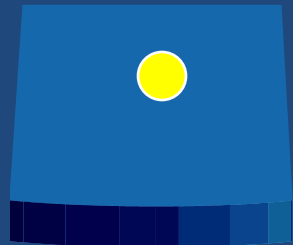
- SFST testing
  - Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus
  - Walk and Turn
  - One Leg Stand

# The Arrest Decision is Based on All Evidence Accumulated During All Three Detection Phases



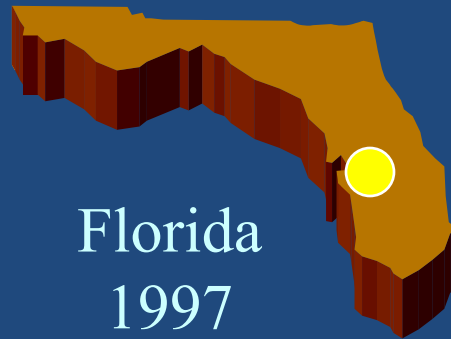
Remember that law enforcement's job is to **articulate and document impairment**, regardless of what is causing the impairment (alcohol/drugs).

# Recent SFST Field Validation Studies



Colorado  
1995

**86%** correct  
arrest decision



Florida  
1997

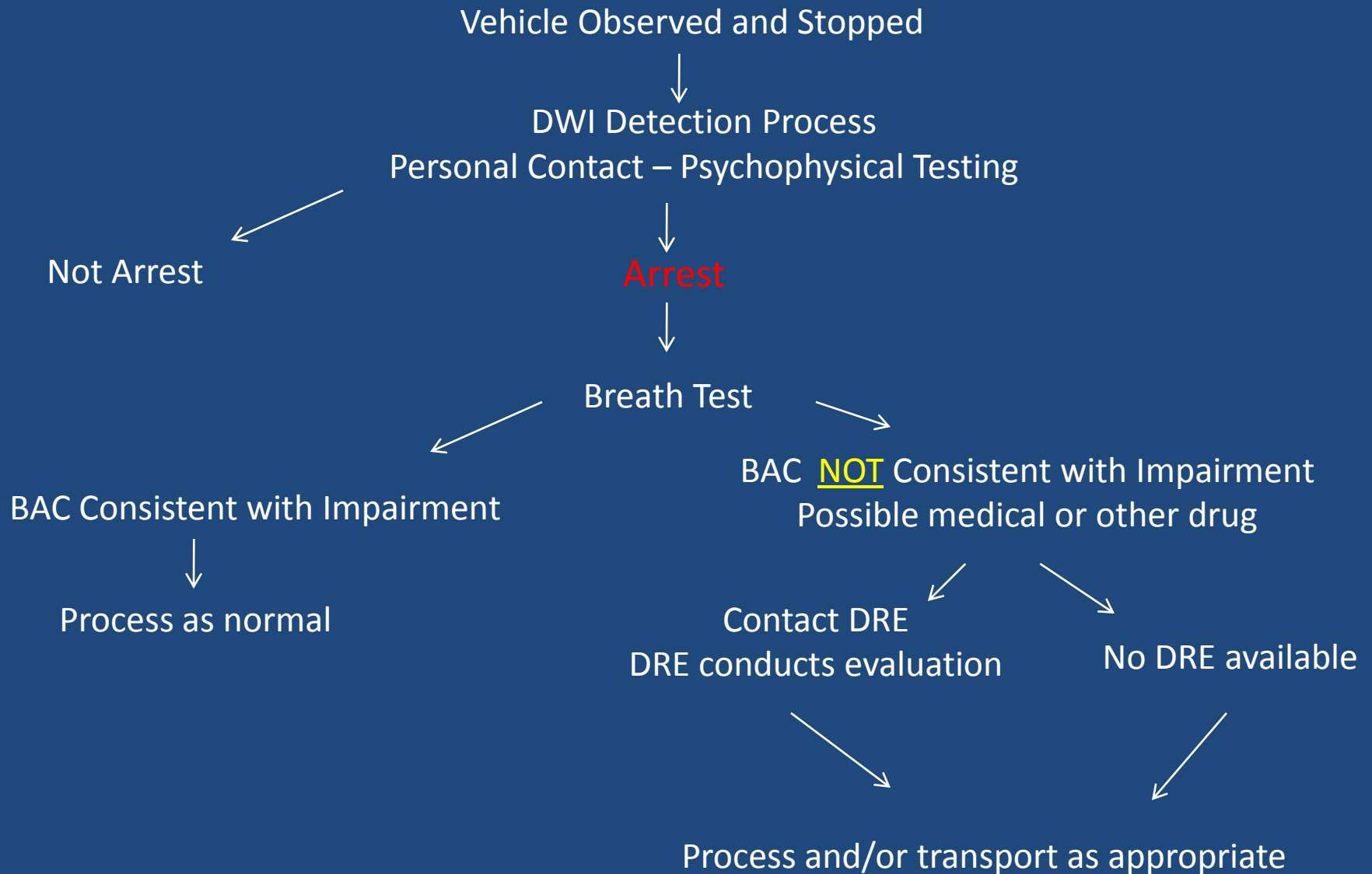
**95%** correct arrest  
decision (0.08)



San Diego, CA  
1998

**95%** correct arrest  
decision (0.08)

- **HGN – 88% accurate**
- **WAT – 79% accurate**
- **OLS – 83% accurate**





**Drug  
Evaluation and  
Classification**

**Advanced Roadside  
Impaired Driving  
Enforcement  
A.R.I.D.E**

**Standardized Field Sobriety Testing**

# Enforcement Techniques

- **Education –**
  - **Community awareness**
    - PSA's
    - Social norms
- **Enforcement –**
  - Checkpoints
  - Saturation patrols

## **CONSISTENT PENALTIES FOR OFFENDERS**

- **Repeat sequence as necessary**

# Law enforcement's challenges

- Manpower
- Patrol Coverage
- Enforcement Details
- Training

What can we do ?

Where should we go?